

4th Infantry Division



BRIEF HISTORY

Prepared by the Staff

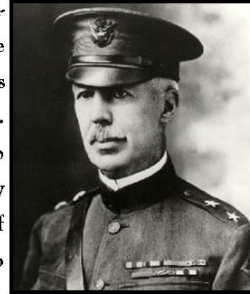
4th Infantry Division Museum

Revised August 2006

World War I

Organization

The 4th Infantry Division was organized at Camp Greene, North Carolina on 10 December 1917 under the command of MG George H. Cameron. It was here they adopted their distinctive insignia, the four Ivy Leaves. The Ivy leaf came from the Roman numerals for Four (IV) and signified their motto "Steadfast and Loyal". The Division was organized as part of the United States buildup following the Declaration of War on 6 April 1917 and the entry of the US into World War I, "The Great War", on the side of the British and French. The Division was organized with two infantry brigades. The 7th Brigade was composed of the 39th Infantry Regiment and 47th Infantry Regiment and the 8th Brigade was composed of the 58th Infantry Regiment and the 59th Infantry Regiment. Each brigade also had a machine gun battalion, the 11th and 12th. In addition, there was the 4th Artillery Brigade composed of the 77th Field Artillery, the 13th Field Artillery, and the 16th Field Artillery Regiments. Rounding out the Division organization was the 4th Engineer Regiment, the 8th Field Signal Battalion, and the Sanitary Trains. Total authorized strength for the Division approached 32,000.



MG George H. Cameron

Training

As troops poured into Camp Greene, North Carolina, the east coast suffered one of its hardest winters in a century making training extremely difficult. During January and February 1918, there were only 17 days available for outdoor training. French and British military advisors arrived in March to assist with training. They had been fighting the German Army since 1914 and were able to provide valuable first-hand information about conditions at the front.

Orders arrived on 15 April 1918 to move to Camp Mills, New Jersey and Camp Merritt, New York for deployment overseas. The 4th Engineers sailed first on 29 April and by 5 June the entire Division was in France. The first casualties were suffered when the British

transport *Moldavia* was torpedoed and sunk resulting in the loss of 56 lives primarily among B Company, 58th Infantry Regiment personnel.

Intensive training began with the 7th and 8th Brigades in the Samer, France training area. Riflemen were issued the British Lee-Enfield rifles, but many complaints went up the chain of command and by July 1918 the infantry personnel once again had their Springfields reissued. The Artillery Brigade went into training at Camp de Souge, Bordeaux with the



French. The 16th Field Artillery and 77th Field Artillery were issued French 75mm guns, while the 13th Field Artillery trained with 155mm horse-drawn howitzers.

During the middle of June the Division traveled by rail to an area in the vicinity of Meaux and the Marne River, just outside of Paris. On 14 June, the 7th Brigade was attached to the 4th French Infantry Division. By

mid July the 7th Brigade was attached to the II French Corps. On the night of 17 July, the

Men of the Third Battalion, 39th Regiment, Company I, 4th Division entering French trucks to be taken to the front. Trucks and soldiers can be seen along the road awaiting their turn to load. Rimacourt, Haute Marne, France, 1 September 1918.

39th Regiment was ordered to the front to relieve the 11th French Infantry just north of Ourcq. An attack was planned for 0530 and the 39th's mission was to cross the Savieres River to

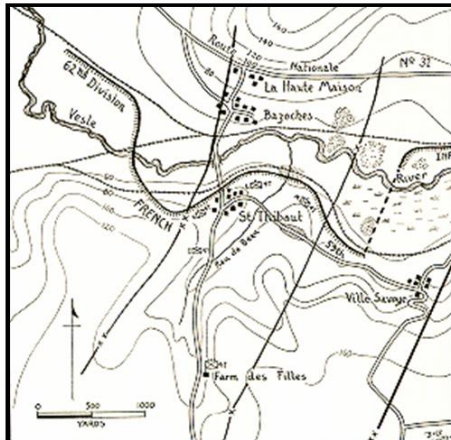
its front and take a hill: the Buisson de Cresnes. Since German defenses had been established to meet opposition coming from a different direction, the 39th met little resistance and pushed on towards the town of Nourouy. By dusk of 19 July, the 39th had taken the village of Chouy. During two days of combat, the 39th had 54 killed in action and 227 wounded in action. For their efforts the Regiment received the French Croix de Guerre. During the same offensive, the 8th Brigade's 58th Infantry Regiment went into combat near Hautevesnes which they captured before driving on to Courchamps. The 2nd Battalion, 58th Infantry took the village of Chevillon and moved on to Hill 172 where the Germans were deeply entrenched. In attempting to take the hill, the battalion suffered 48% casualties. To assist with taking Hill 172, 2nd Battalion, 59th Infantry moved in to assist. Other battalions of the 59th encountered heavy fighting over the next two days. Losses in the 59th were 179 killed in action and 860 wounded in action.

On the heels of the retreating Huns, near the Velse, an American first-aid station, digging in for shelter from the shells in a wooded area south of the Velse which only a few hours before had been occupied by the Boche. Members of the 39th Regt, 4th Div near Frenses, France. 31 July 1918



By 23 July the 4th Infantry Division's units had been re-consolidated near Bourneville for rest and to train replacements. The 4th Division soldiers had proven themselves by advancing 17 kilometers and capturing large numbers of prisoners and materials.

On 28 July 1918 the 4th was placed under U.S. I Corps control.



During the first week of August, the 4th fought as a Division under American control. They were sent to the Vesle River where they encountered the tenacity of the German defense. The German Army had fortified the high positions overlooking the Vesle River, and were constantly shelling and gassing the men of the 4th. The soldiers of the 8th Brigade established a bridgehead but were not able to reach the opposite shore until the following day. The men of the 39th Infantry Regiment faced the most difficult task—the taking of the town of Bazoches. After losing several patrols that were sent across the river

to machine gun fire from the town, the Brigade Commander decided to shell the town. The 4th Artillery Brigade obliged his wishes with an intense bombardment. The 58th, on the right of the 39th was able follow the barrage with an attack and gain the opposite bank of the river. The 1/39th, however, was slow to follow the barrage, suffered heavy losses, and had to fall

back. The 47th Infantry took the 39th's positions and launched their attack on the morning of 7 August. By noon, one company had made it across the river. Other companies followed slowly during the rest of the day encountering heavy German machine gun fire.

On 8 August, Germany artillery fire was especially active. Nearly 3,000 shells were dropped on the men of the 47th alone. The 47th resumed its attack on Bazoches on 9 August in conjunction with the 62nd French Division on the left. By 7:30 p.m. the 47th was halfway through the town, but after an aerial bombardment by the Germans, the 47th had to fall back to the river. The attack continued through 11 August with no major advancement and a great number of casualties until the 4th was replaced in the line by the 77th Division. 4th Artillery Brigade stayed on the line until 16 August.

After the severe fighting on the Vesle it became necessary for the Division to rest and

train replacements. The Division moved by foot and train to the Reynel training area, 30 miles northeast of Chaumont. MG John L. Hines assumed command of the 4th on 27 August after MG Cameron took command of V Corps.



2LT A. B. Murray, liaison officer with the mobile headquarters, 39th Regt, receiving orders from COL Bowles, who is with the soldiers in the first line. Near Nantillois, Meuse, France, 28 Sept 1918.

St. Mihiel Offensive

For the St. Mihiel Campaign the division moved into an area south of Verdun as part of the 1st American Army. Gen. Pershing, Commander of the American Expeditionary forces, had gotten the French and British to agree that the US army would fight under its own organizational elements. One of the first missions assigned to the American Army was the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient. The 4th Division, assigned to V Corps, was on the western face of the salient. The plan

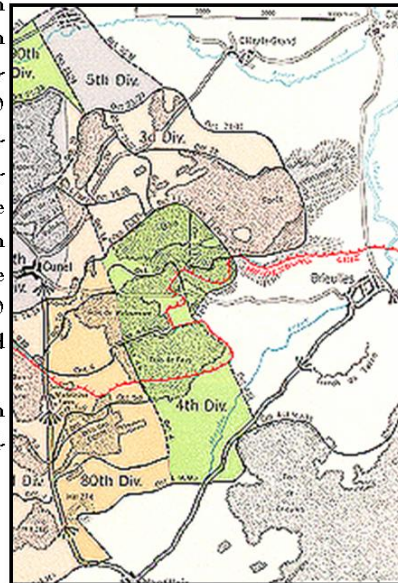
was for V Corps to push generally southeast and to meet IV Corps who was pushing northwest, thereby trapping the Germans in the St. Mihiel area.

The 59th Infantry Regiment moved into an area previously occupied by the French, deploying along a 9 kilometer front. On 12 September, the first patrols were sent forward by the 59th. The 4th Division attack began on the 14th of September with the 8th Brigade capturing the town of Manheulles. All along the front, the American forces pressed forward and closed the St. Mihiel salient. During the first American-commanded offensive, the US soldiers had been incredibly successful.

The Meuse-Argonne Campaign

On 26 September, the last great battle of WWI (the Meuse-Argonne Campaign) began. Moving under the cover of darkness for total secrecy, the Americans had moved into their sector of the front following the completion of their mission in the St. Mihiel area. Three US Army corps were assigned sectors along the US part of the front. III Corps held the extreme right (eastern) part of the front with V Corps to their left. The 4th Division was assigned to III Corps. The III Corps sector had the 33rd Division on the right, the 80th Division had the center, and the 4th was assigned the left, with the 79th Division, V Corps on their left. The 7th Brigade was moved to the line in the trenches around Hill 304. The Division plan called for one brigade to fight until exhausted and then send the other brigade forward to press the attack. The 26 September attack was made through a narrow valley. The 7th Brigade moved through the valley, taking large numbers of German prisoners, reached a second line of defenses by 9:00 a.m. and, after again overcoming the German defenders, approached the town of Cuisy. The Germans provided a formidable opposition, but the 39th Infantry overcame them and moved through Septsarges. During this first day, the 7th Brigade had captured 1700 prisoners, and more than 40 guns. Division Headquarters was moved forward to Cuisy.

On 27 September the attack resumed with a field artillery barrage. The 39th Infantry fol-



Ground gained vicinity Bois de Forest, Oct 1918

lowed the barrage until they encountered withering machine gun fire from the Bois des Ogons where they were held up. The 8th Brigade was brought forward on the 29 September to take the place of the 39th on the line. The 8th Brigade moved through the Bois de Brioules but met increasing machine gun fire from the Bois des Ogons. Very little progress was made over the next four days as the terrible condition of the roads at the rear hampered re-supply and re-inforcement efforts. By 3 October, Phase I of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive was over.

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive-Phase II

Through the strenuous efforts of the supply and ammunition trains, enough materiel had been acquired to resume the attack by 3 October. The Division plan was to fight its way through the many forests surrounding the city of Brioules and capture the city. On the morning of 4 October, the 8th Brigade moved out of the foxholes and moved across open ground under the cover of heavy fog. As the fog lifted the Germans opened fire from the front, the left and the right. The 58th fought forward wearing gas masks since many of the projectiles contained gas, finally managing to gain a foothold in the Bois de Fays. The line was able to advance no further for the next 4 days enduring constant shelling and German night patrols attempting to infiltrate their lines. Forward movement was again ordered on 9 October with the 7th Brigade attacking. The 8th Brigade was withdrawn for rest. The 39th Infantry was



1st Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, on march through town of Kaisersesch, Rhine Province, Germany, 14 December 1918.

designated as the assaulting unit. The order to attack came just at sundown. With difficulty, the men stumbled forward in darkness wearing gas masks and under fire. Little progress could be made. The 39th withdrew to resume the attack at 0700 on the 10 October. 2/39th led the way and incurred heavy losses. Many of the officers in the 39th were killed or wounded, including all of the majors. Another attack was ordered and by 1730 2/39th had fought through the Bois de Peut de Faux. The men dug in for the night. Early on the morning of the 11th, the entire regimental staff of the 39th was gassed and LTC Troy Middleton, 47th Infantry was ordered to take command of the 39th. Attacking on the morning of the 11 October, the 7th Brigade pushed through the Bois de Foret. The orders for 12 October were to clean out the last pockets of German resistance in the Bois de Foret. Patrols were sent out to the north side of Hill 299. On the 13th of

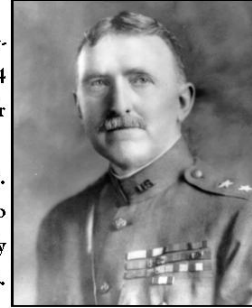
October, 4th Division units were relieved by the 4th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Division.

On 10 October MG John L. Hines was selected to command III Corps. MG George H. Cameron was returned to the 4th Division as its commander.

The 4th was withdrawn from the front on 19 October. During their 24 days of combat they had paid a heavy price with 244 officers and 7,168 men killed or wounded. They had fought their way over 13 kilometers and captured 2,731 enemy prisoners.

The Division relocated to Lucey as part of Second Army. MG Cameron received a new assignment to return to the US to train new divisions on 22 October. Command passed temporarily to BG Benjamin, Commander, 7th Brigade before MG Mark L. Hersey arrived to assume command on 31 October.

The Armistice ending the war was signed on 11 November 1918. The last casualties in the Division were suffered by 13th Field Artillery at 1400 11 November 1918.



MG John L. Hines

Occupation Duty

Under the terms of the Armistice, Germany was to evacuate all territory west of the Rhine. American troops were to relocate to the center section of this previously German occupied area all the way to the Coblenz bridgehead on the Rhine. The 4th marched into Germany, covering 330 miles in 15 days where it was widely dispersed over an area with Bad Bertrich as Division headquarters. The Division established training for the men as well as sports and educational activities. In April 1919 the Division moved to a new occupation area further north on the Rhine.

In July the Division returned to France and the last detachment sailed for the United States on 31 July 1919.

On 21 September 1921, the 4th Division was inactivated at Camp Lewis, Washington as part of the Army Reorganization Act of 1920.

World War II

The 4th Division was next reactivated on 1 June 1940 at Fort Benning, GA as part of the US Army buildup just prior to the country's entry in World War II. The 4th found itself sharing Fort Benning with a newly organized division—the 2nd Armored which was commanded from the fall of 1940 through February 1942 by a flamboyant general who seemed to steal all the headlines—MG George S. Patton, Jr.

Organization

At Fort Benning, the Division found itself with a very different structure than the old WWI Division. The Table of Organization had been changed to reflect the US Army's new philosophy and doctrine. Division strength had been pared down to about 15,000 to enable it to move quickly and be more responsive to combat conditions. Gone was the brigade structure. Instead there were three infantry regiments each with about 3,000 personnel divided between three battalions and supporting elements. Each regiment had the capability of organizing into a Regimental Combat Team (RCT). The new triangular division structure offered



Number 4 barracks, Fort Benning, Georgia, 1941

commanders much more flexibility and could be customized for particular missions. Ordinarily, the RCT would include a field artillery battalion, a company of engineers, a medical company, and a signal detachment attached to the regiment for a combined arms punch. From June 1940 through the fall of 1941, the three regiments of the 4th Division at this time were the 8th In-

fantry Regiment, the 22nd Infantry Regiment, and the 29th Infantry Regiment. In the fall of 1941, the 12th Infantry Regiment replaced the 29th.

Also included in the 4th Division were HHB Division Artillery, 20th Field Artillery Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Battalion, 42nd Field Artillery Battalion, and the 44th Field Artillery Battalion. In addition there was the 704th Ordnance Company, the 4th Quartermaster Company, the 4th Signal Company, the 4th Medical Battalion, the 4th Engineer Combat

Battalion, the 4th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment, a Military Police Platoon, and the 4th Reconnaissance Troops (Mechanized).

Training

From 1 June 1940 until late 1943 the Division served as an experimental division for the Army. The theories developed during the 1930's about combined arms units and restructuring of units were tested by the 4th at Fort Benning and at the various maneuvers in which they participated until deployment for combat operations.

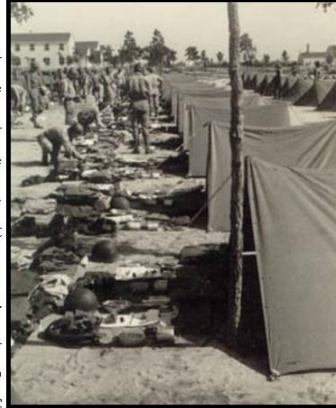
In August 1941 the Division moved to Louisiana to participate in the IV Corps Louisiana Maneuvers. In December 1941, the Division was restationed at Camp Gordon, Georgia where they remained for the most of the next two years. In April 1943, the Division was re-assigned to Fort Dix, New Jersey. September 1943 saw the Division moving once again. The newest posting was to Camp Gordon Johnston at Carabelle, Florida where

they trained for amphibious landings using a variety of landing craft. By late 1943 the Division had once again moved-this time to Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Their time at Fort Jackson was brief, however, as they were alerted for overseas movement and departed for their staging area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey. On the morning of January 18, 1944, the 4th sailed for England landing at Liverpool on 29 January.

The Division established their headquarters at Tiverton with the rest of the Division scattered around the villages of Devonshire. Joining the Division for various phases of their training in England were the 70th and 746th Tank Battalions, the 65th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, the 377th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, the 87th Chemical Battalion, the 1106th Engineer Group, and the 801st and 899th Tank Destroyer Battalions.

Operation Tiger

In April-May 1944 the Army staged full-dress rehearsals for the D-Day landings scheduled for June 1944. Units who were to make the initial landings in Normandy were those who



Company D, 8th Infantry Regiment, Camp Gordon, Georgia, 1942.



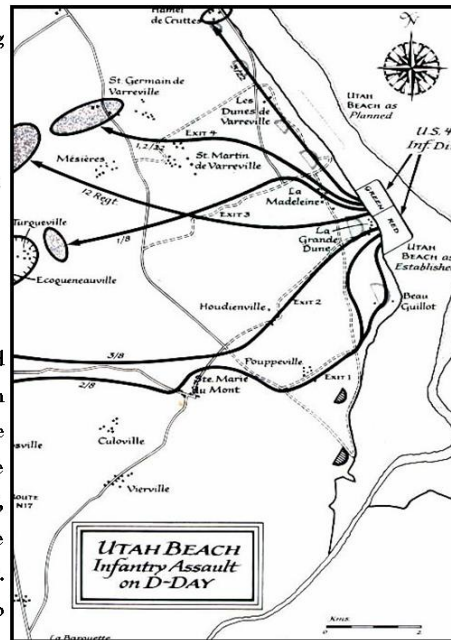
Soldiers of the 4th ID landing at Utah Beach, 6 June 1944.

participated in the live-fire training on the South Devon coast in an area called Slapton Sands. The coast was very similar to conditions that the initial assault units would find in Normandy. Operating under complete secrecy, units moved to the assembly areas. English civilians had been removed from the area. During their weeks at Slapton Sands, 4th Infantry Division soldiers and commanders studied models of Utah Beach, gas-proof clothing was issued, and vehicles and equipment were water-proofed. During the rehearsal of

28 April, nine German E-boats (fast-moving torpedo boats) managed to slip past the British naval defenders and opened fire on the ships and landing craft containing American army units, including those from the 4th Infantry Division.

D-Day & France

On D-Day, 6 June 1944, the Allied invasion of Hitler's "Fortress Europe" began with landings at four beachheads along the Normandy Coast. The beach located the farthest west was designated Utah Beach, and the 4th Infantry Division was to be the first American division to land in that area. The 8th Infantry Regiment was chosen to





The Division's first Medal of Honor recipient was BG Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who received the medal for his actions on 6 June 1944 when he was amongst the first 4ID soldiers to arrive at Utah Beach.

make the initial landing closely followed by the 12th and 22nd Infantry Regiments. The beach had been pounded by Allied aircraft and the Navy was providing supporting fire from ships in the English Channel. Our first soldiers ashore encountered underwater mines, barbed wire, trenches, German artillery, bunkers and pillboxes. After the landing, the 4th gained ground rapidly and soon broke through to the vital road center of St. Mere Eglise to relieve the 82d Airborne, which had been isolated for 36 hours. It was at Utah beach that the first of four Congressional Medals of Honor of WWII for the Division was awarded to BG Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., brigade commander, for his actions on the beachhead.

By 25 June the Division had taken Tourville, a suburb of Cherbourg and had been in continuous action since 6 June. By the end of the following week, the Division had taken Cherbourg itself.

Operation Cobra

From 24 July to 18 August the Division fought in Operation Cobra and the drive through France. Operation Cobra was



conceived to allow the Allied Armies to break out of their narrow beachheads before the German Army could amass more men and equipment for a counter-

St. Lo, France. Members of the 3/8th Infantry, 4ID waiting for orders to move up from St. Lo, gaze skyward as Allied medium bombers move to soften up the enemy line, 25 July 1944.



Members of the 4th Division aid in rounding up prisoners in Paris after the liberation of the city. Paris, France, 25 August 1944

attack. The Division found itself in the French hedgerow country, where closely planted trees and bushes marked the boundaries of farmers' fields. The hedgerows were perfect for the German defenders. Three divisions were chosen to spearhead the attack through the German lines. Elements of the 4th Infantry Division were in the center position. The attack was prefaced by one of the most massive air campaigns up to

that time. As the 4th Infantry Division's 22nd Infantry Regiment awaited the end of the air bombardment, disaster occurred. Drifting smoke from the first bombs confused the succeeding bombers who dropped their rounds onto Allied lines including the 4th's. Despite casualties, the 22nd attack proceeded on time and the spearhead moved south. The Americans encountered heavy fighting in the St. Lo and Mortain areas, but the offensive was so successful that the US Armies were soon in the open countryside of Northern France. The 4th was ordered to move southeast towards the capital city of France.

While not of great strategic importance, the City of Paris held great symbolic value to the citizens of France. The Germans had threatened to destroy the city at any approach of Allied Armies. With time of the essence, the 4th moved rapidly towards Paris.

On 24 August, elements of the Division arrived on the outskirts of Paris—the first of the Allies to reach the capital city of France. When it became evident that the Germans were not going to destroy Paris, political deci-



Infantrymen of the 4th Infantry Division attempting to move forward with machine guns are pinned down by German small arms fire from within the town. Sept 1944, Belgium.



Yank trucks of the 4th Infantry Division Engineers cross the Muse River at Montharrie France by this Engineer Pontoon Bridge, 8 Sep 1944, France.

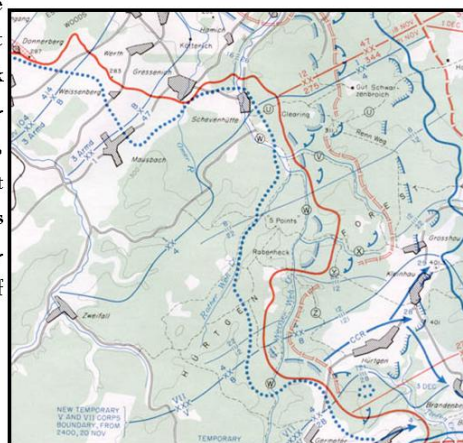
sions were made for the 4th to await the arrival of the Free French Forces so that the French could be the first to enter Paris and "liberate" their city. The next day the 4th Infantry Division entered the city. Paris was once again free.

On to Germany

After a brief time in Paris, the Division was once again on the move. Pushing across the Belgian border on 3-5 September, the Division faced east and began moving in on the Siegfried Line. A patrol from the 22d Infantry Regiment filtered through German lines on 11 September to become the first

American infantry unit to cross into the German Reich. The Division crossed the border on 12 September and the assault on the Siegfried Line commenced. As the 4ID proceeded

through the vaunted German defense line, the Germans rushed reinforcements to the area. The 4th found itself spread along a 15 mile long front. Finally it became evident that the American V Corps could not break through the German line until more reinforcements arrived. Throughout October, the Division awaited word for an attack that never arrived. Finally, in November, orders arrived for the Division to move to the forest area east of Eupen and southeast of Aachen.



Map of the Hurtgen Forest Area through 3 December 1944.

The Hurtgen Forest Campaign

In November and early December, the Division fought in one of the costliest campaigns of World War II. The Hurtgen Forest was a rugged terrain of heavily forested hills blocking the approaches to the Ruhr Valley and the Cologne Plain. The forest was so dense that in some areas, visibility was reduced to 30 feet. There were few roads through the forest and the German defenders knew the area well. They had pre-positioned artillery and mortar

units to cover all the roads through the forest and laid mines in every clearing. By mid-November, the 4ID was one of the infantry divisions discovering how difficult combat under these conditions could be. In addition to the rugged terrain, the weather had also turned bad. It was extremely wet and cold. In addition to the casualties caused by the heavy fighting, there were many soldiers who suffered from trench foot and other physically debilitating injuries caused by the weather.

On 6 November 1944, the 12th Infantry Regiment (Combat Team 12) moved into the Hurtgen to take over positions being vacated by the 109th Infantry (28th Infantry Division). By mid-month the remainder of the Division was engaged in the Hurtgen campaign. On 17 November, heavy artillery fire resulted in the loss of the commanders of 1/22nd Infantry and



3/22 Infantry Battalions. Throughout the month of November, re-supply created numerous problems for the Division. The engi-

PFC Benry Barrow of St. Louis, MO, gives a helping hand to a buddy as they make a difficult climb in the Hurtgen Forest southwest of Duern Germany during the Allied Offensive. Company I, 3/8th Inf Rgt, 4ID, 18 November 1944.



A Yank casualty is carried down a slope in the Hurtgen Forest, Germany, 18 November 1944. Company I, 3rd Bn, 8th Infantry Rgt, Duern area, Germany.

By the end of November, the 4th had reached the eastern edge of the forest, but at heavy cost. Combat and non-combat casualties for the Division amounted to over 7,500 personnel. The 4th was withdrawn from the Hurtgen Forest area on 7 December and sent south to a quiet area of the front in Luxembourg to recover from the rigors of combat and receive replacements for those Ivymen lost in the Hurtgen.

The 4th Infantry Division was placed along a 35 mile long front just east of Luxembourg City in the Echternach, Grevenmacher, and Remich cantons. This “quiet” area of the

heavy artillery fire directed at their positions at Berdorf, Lauterborn, Alttier, Osweler, and

Dickweiler with the largest concentration in the town of Echternach. Headquarters for the 12th Infantry Regiment was in Junglisten with battalion headquarters at Bergour, Consdorf, and Herborn. Shelling was so heavy that all ground wire communication with forward elements was lost. By nightfall of the 16th, most of 12th Infantry's companies had been surrounded and cut off from communication with Division headquarters. The 2/22nd Infantry was quickly alerted for movement to the 12th Infantry area.

Early on the 17th, the remnants of the 12th Infantry Regiment with 2/22 Infantry and two companies of tanks from the 70th Tank Battalion and the 19th Tank Battalion moved forward in an attempt to reestablish contact with their isolated elements. They found that all those they could reach had been holding even though they had been surrounded.

The Division discovered that enemy forces were moving through an area to the extreme left of the 12th's positions and immediately organized the 4th Engineers, 2/8th Infantry, and the 4th Reconnaissance Troop to move into defensive positions south of Mullerthal. There they found a small unit holding a vital defensive position in the Consdorf area. The unit was composed of one tank and seven infantrymen (cooks and an MP) who were finally assisted by the larger force from Division. As evening approached, the Division commander was optimistic that the front line was stabilizing.

The 18th of December saw the arrival of reinforcements, who were quickly thrown into the front lines. Once again, the enemy was pressed the attack while the Division elements facing them were attempting to improve their defensive positions. By 19 December, 2/22 Infantry Battalion had reached Osweiler and made contact with Company L, 12th Infantry. Company E, 12th Infantry was still surrounded at Echternach and a Task Force from the 10th Armored Division attempted to reach them. The Task Force was unable to get through.



Fighting continued over the entire left front line of the Division over the next two days with the enemy launching more aggressive attacks in the center of the 12th's

American troops of the 4th Infantry Division run across a Bailey bridge under shell fire near Mosdorf, Luxembourg, 21 January 1945.

line. Companies B and F, with tanks from the 70th Tank Battalion repulsed an attack in the Berdorf area and then withdrew back towards Consdorf establishing a defensive line on Hill 313. This area, again, saw heavy fighting on 21 December. The 22nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team (-2/22) turned over its area to the 8th RCT and moved to relieve the 12th Regiment in its area of operations. The Division came under 3rd Army control on 20 December as leading elements of the Army group reached the Division's positions to assist with the defense and the subsequent counter-attacks. On 22 December, the Division (in conjunction with the 10th Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division) launched a counter-attack to drive the enemy from his forward positions. At the same time the Germans launched a two-company attack against 1/12 Infantry near Scheidgen. The battle continued through the afternoon until the Germans withdrew.

Improved visibility on the 23rd allowed for air support. Counter-attacks were launched across the line and relieving elements finally reached the stranded E Company, 12th Infantry Regiment on 27 December at Echternach. They found no sign of anyone left alive in the town and concluded that the entire company had been taken as prisoners of war when the Germans abandoned the town. They later found out that E Company had heroically defended the town for 5 days before running completely out of ammunition and, after taking direct artillery fire, had surrendered.



The Final Push

Exactly one year after leaving the United States, the Division crossed the Sauer River, over-ran the towns of

Troops of the 4th Infantry Division move through the town of Prüm and prepare to cross the Prüm River, 1 March 1945.

Fuhren and Viaden, and quickly took all objectives by 21 January 1945. They were now moving in pursuit of the Germans as the Germans reluctantly retreated farther into Germany. In late January, the Division was moved north, back through Bastogne, Belgium, where they prepared to attack the Our River area. Crossing the Siegfried line once again, the Division found itself waiting the last two weeks in February to be re-supplied.



In constant danger from falling walls, infantry from the 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Division move through smoke-filled Crailsheim, Germany, 21 April 1945.

the momentum had turned, but a rapidly fleeing enemy could still turn and be dangerous for pursuing troops. The Division moved through Bad Mergentheim, Rothenburg, Crailsheim, and Aalen. By 25 April, the Division had crossed the Danube River at Lauingen, moving onto Munich. During this one-month period, the Division captured over 50,000 German prisoners. Following the end of hostilities in Germany on 25 May 1945, the Division began participating in occupation duties prior to returning to the United States. Upon arrival in the United States on 10 July 1945, the Division was fully prepared to be re-deployed to the Pacific, but before this could happen, the Japanese had surrendered. The war was over and the Division was inactivated on 12 May 1946 at Camp Butner, NC.

On 1 March 1945, the Division crossed the Prum River and nine days later captured the town of Adenau. The area between Prum and Adenau was defended by the 15th Parachute Regiment who resisted fiercely. Following this action, the Division was allowed to rest in France until they were ordered into combat once again.

On 29 March, the Division crossed the Rhine River near Worms, and launched a pursuit of the fleeing enemy. The Division drove to the outskirts of Wurzburg and then turned south. Everyone could feel that the

Reactivation

Reactivated as a training division on 15 July 1947 at Fort Ord, CA, the Division was redesignated as the Fourth Infantry Division. After just a few years at Fort Ord, it was reorgan-

ized as a combat division on 10 October 1950 at Fort Benning, GA under the command of MG Harlan N. Harkness. The Division was deployed to Germany in May-June 1951 to take its place in the NATO structure. The Division remained in Germany for a total of six years. Headquarters was established at Drake Kaserne in Frankfurt. Drake Kaserne also housed the 4th Military Police Co., the 4th Replacement Company, the 4th Quartermaster Company, the 4th Reconnaissance Company, the 4th Signal Company, the 4th Medical Battalion, and the Division Band.

The Division's units were scattered in various kasernes in Germany. The 2/8th Infantry was in Budingon, while the 3/8th was located Butzbach. The 1/12th Infantry and the 42nd Field Artillery were located in Gelnhausen. In Hanau there was Division Artillery, 4th Engineer Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Battalion and the 3/12th Infantry. Mannheim was the home for the 46th Anti-Aircraft Artillery



A member of Svc Battery, 29th Field Artillery Bn, 4th Inf Div utilizes a jumble of rocks as a place of concealment during squad training held during winter training exercises at Grafenwohr Germany, 13 February 1956

Battalion. The 22nd Infantry Regiment was located in Schweinfurt along with the 44th Field Artillery Battalion. The 29th Field Artillery Battalion was located at Friedberg along with the Provisional Battalion of the 8th Infantry Regiment.

In September 1956, the 4ID was reassigned to Fort Lewis, WA where it provided basic training to thousands of young draftees. In 1958, the division became a part of STRAC (Strategic Army Corps) and from 1958 to 1965 participated in a number of major exercises.

Training exercises ranged from amphibious landings on various islands such as San Juan Island to alpine training in the Snoqualmie Range. However, early in January 1966 training was altered to focus more on conditions that might be encountered in a tropical climate. To train the Ivy Division soldiers for duty in Vietnam, a mock Vietnamese village was constructed at Fort Lewis.



Fort Lewis, Washington, 13 March 1964. Twins, PVT-E2 Ronald M. Cronin is a radio operator and PVT-E2 Donald A. Cronin is a switchboard operator. They are checking their equipment. Both are with HQ BTRY, 5/16th FA.

Vietnam

In January 1966 the Division began preparation for movement to Vietnam. By June 1966 the 4th Engineer Battalion had deployed to the Central Highlands of Viet Nam to es-

tablish a base camp near Dragon Mountain outside of Pleiku. The rest of the 4th Infantry Division, under the command of MG Arthur S. Collins, Jr., was preparing for deployment. Advance parties deployed to Vietnam in the summer of 1966.

LTC Robert C. McAlister, outgoing commander of the 5/16th Field Artillery Battalion, troops the line with incoming commander, LTC Vincent W. Bezich during the change of command ceremony, 2 May 1964, Fort Lewis, Washington



The 2nd Brigade (2/8 Infantry (Mech), 1/12 Infantry and 1/22 Infantry) arrived in the II Corps area in September 1966 and moved into the new Division base camp (later named Camp Enari after 1LT Mark Enari, a recipient of the silver star) south of Pleiku at Dragon Mountain. Camp Enari eventually came to number some 900 buildings and housed the 2d Brigade as well as attached units.

The Division's 1st Brigade arrived shortly after and established their headquarters at Tuy Hoa on the coast.

Third Brigade (2/12th Infantry, 2/22nd Infantry, and 3/22nd Infantry) was sent much

farther south into War Zone C outside of Saigon and assigned to the operational control of the 25th Infantry Division. The 25th's 3rd Brigade (1/14th Infantry, 1/35th Infantry, and 2/35th Infantry), already operating out of the Pleiku area, came under the operational control of the 4ID.

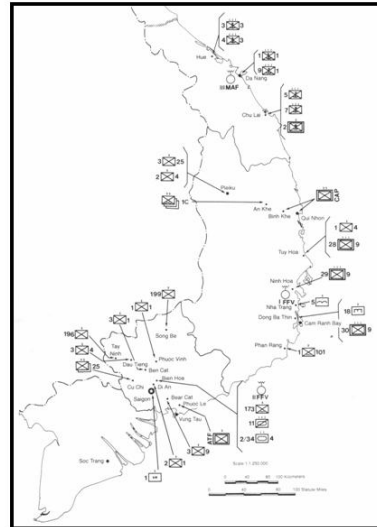


Central Highlands

The area of operations for the 4th was the western central highlands along the border of Cambodia. In addition, the Division provided support around the coastal plains near Tuy

General William C. Westmoreland, Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, greets COL Judson F. Miller, Commander, 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division as the brigade lands at Qui Nhon, Vietnam, 6 August 1966..

Hoa. The Central Highlands had become increasingly important militarily, because it was one of the primary supply and staging areas of the North Vietnamese as they transported material and personnel down the Ho Chi Minh Trail through Cambodia and then into South Vietnam.

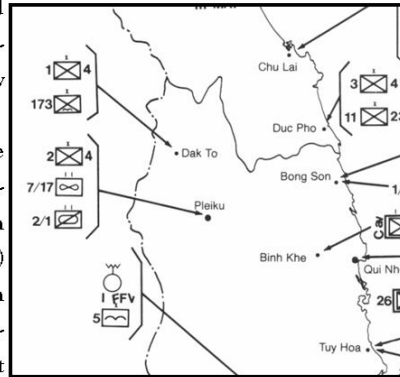


Location of United States units as of December 1966

One of the primary missions of the 4ID was to find and eliminate North Vietnamese Army (NVA) units operating out of the central highlands, and to find and destroy the supplies and equipment that were cached in the rugged under-populated terrain. Enemy units encountered in this area consisted primarily of North Vietnamese (NVA) regulars.

The terrain was unlike any previously encountered by the 4th during combat. With mountainous rainforests, few roads and settlements, and tropical weather, the Division relied heavily on army aviation to move personnel and supplies around the area. The Division's Engineers also did heroic work keeping what few roads and highways that did exist open.

The combat operations were also unlike any previous combat experienced by the Division during WWI or WWII. Combat action typically involved company-sized (or smaller) units engaged in brief, furious firefights with an enemy who would then melt away into the rainforest or across the Cambodian border if he met overwhelming firepower. The typical method of finding the enemy or his supply caches was to send out patrols in an attempt to locate the elusive NVA. In many cases a company- to battalion-sized base camp would be temporarily established close to the border with patrols sent out through the hills and mountains. The pa-



US Army unit positions, Central Highlands, Vietnam, December 1967.



patrols, as well as the base camp, relied heavily on field artillery fire support and aviation fire support when large numbers of enemy per-

1st Brigade SP4 Jerry Vaughn and SP4 Allen Kidd move across a monsoon swollen stream in the Central Highlands, 27 Jul 1967.



"Operation McArthur" A UH-1B helicopter prepares for a re-supply mission for Company B, 1/8th Infantry during the operation conducted 20 miles southwest of Dak To, 10-16 December 1967

were encountered. Night attacks on base camps were common.

By the fall of 1966, the 4ID was engaged in numerous clashes with the NVA along the border, with the enemy taking heavy losses. In January 1967, a new Division Commander, MG William R. Peers, arrived.

DAK TO

The Division continued to see border clashes, but these diminished in the summer of 1967 as the NVA pulled back across the Cambodian border to regroup and prepare for a major fall

offensive. The 1st Brigade moved to an area west of Pleiku and established a base camp. The Division now had three brigades actively working the border area of the central highlands.

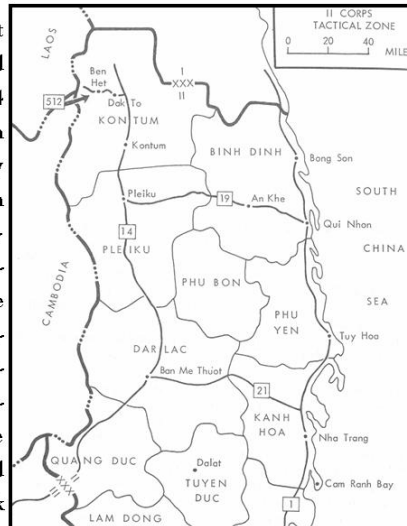
In August 1967 Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) reflagged both 3rd Brigades (4th ID and 25th ID) so there was no longer a geographical separation of brigades for both divisions. Individual battalions within the brigades remained the same.

In the fall of 1967, Operation McArthur was launched when alarming news came from the Special Forces Camps near Dak To. The camps near Dak To were part of a chain of Civilian Irregular Defense



"Moving Out" Members of the 4ID's Company A, 2/8th Infantry (Mech) move out on a dismounted patrol east of Pleiku. Date unknown.

Special Forces personnel. Situated in the west central part of Kontum Province, they could be reached from Pleiku City by Highway 14 which rapidly deteriorated north of Kontum City. Since the 4th ID had the responsibility for the security of the camps, the Division moved its 1st Brigade to Dak To. Also assigned to the 1st Brigade was the 4/503rd battalion from the 173rd Airborne Brigade. The 4/503 was airlifted into the Ben Het area, replacing the 3/8th Infantry who moved into positions southwest of Dak To. The Brigade immediately sent out long range reconnaissance patrols. Captured enemy documents provided intelligence on the NVA plan to destroy Dak To. To meet the enemy offensive, the 3/12th



Tet Offensive, February 1, 1968. Soldiers of the 1st/22nd Inf Bn react to sniper fire as they patrol the streets of Kontum searching for members of the 32nd NVA Regiment.

to hill top over the next three weeks as the brigade engaged the NVA forces. The period 3-21 November encompassed the most critical period in what has come to be called the Battle of Dak To. During this period, the 1st Brigade, 4ID destroyed two NVA regiments' operational capabilities, pursued the remnants to the Cambodian border, and neutralized a major NVA offensive. Dak To was to be one of the largest battles fought during the Vietnam War resulting in over 2,000 NVA KIA's.

The Tet Offensive/Pacification

In January 1968, MG Peers relinquished command to MG Charles P. Stone, whose first challenge occurred when North Vietnamese forces launched the Tet Offensive attacking all provincial capitals of South Vietnam. The Tet attacks on Pleiku beginning 30 January 1968 were speedily put down by the soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division. Following Tet, the 4ID found itself operating over large sections of Pleiku, Kontum, Dalac, and Quang Duc provinces, as well as proceeding with pacification operations throughout the remainder of 1968. As part of these operations, entire

villages of the indigenous Montagnard population were relocated so that the US Army could provide better protection for those people from the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese Army. Along with the relocations, many civic action programs were promoted as part of the



"Operation Muscatine" Members of Company B, 1/14th Inf, 3rd Bde, 4ID, move across a swampy area to a small island to take up a forward observation post during a search and destroy operation conducted in the Quang-Ngai Province, 18 miles south of Chu Lai, 22-23 January 1968..



A two-and-a-half ton truck of 1/22 Infantry in the process of moving part of a Montagnard house during the relocation effort. Vietnam.

"Good Neighbor" policy, including medical help and hygienic improvements.

During 1969 under the command of MG Donn R. Pepke, the 4ID provided a screen along the border while the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) moved into positions to protect the civilian population centers of the Central Highlands. Realizing the limitations of Division actions spread over such a large territory, MG Pepke concentrated the bulk of his forces near the population centers using them as rapid deployment elements within his area of operations. In March 1969,

the NVA attacked the Special Forces Camp at Ben Het once again using tanks. The Division



The men of B Battery, 4/42nd Field Artillery Battalion fire a contact mission for 4th Infantry Division troops.

responded with the 1st Battalion, 69th Armor who knocked out two of the enemy tanks and then turned their guns on enemy infantry positions. The NVA attack was blunted. For much of the remainder of 1969, fighting in the highlands was sporadic. The American Army was in the process of "Vietnamization". With this policy, US Army units would gradually turn over their missions and areas of operations to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam. With the process in place, the Division could, at long last, think about returning home.

Return Home

The process of leaving Vietnam, began in the spring of 1970 when the 3rd Brigade returned to the United States and the 4th ID turned Camp Enari over to the ARVN in April. Division Headquarters was relocated east to Camp Radcliff at An Khe. The war was not yet over for the 4th, however, as most of the Division made the raid into Cambodia during May 1970 to seize enemy bases and supplies. Substantial NVA opposition met the men of the 4ID as they made their landings and some elements of the task force had to land at alternate sites. During a sweep through the area, sizable caches of supplies and equipment were found and destroyed. After a week in Cambodia, the Division returned to An Khe. During the remainder of 1970, the Division secured the area around An Khe until departing during November from Cam Ranh Bay. The destination of the 4th Infantry Division was a new home at Fort Carson, Colorado.

During the 4 1/2 years that the 4th Infantry Division was in Vietnam, they earned 11 campaign streamers, two Republic of Vietnam Crosses of Gallantry with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class. Of the units currently serving with the 4ID, there were 16 Presidential Unit Citations, 23 Valorous Unit Awards, and 20 Meritorious Unit Citations awarded for actions in Vietnam. Additionally, there were 16 Congressional Medals of Honor awarded to soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division (4 were for soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division operating under 4th Infantry Division).

Fort Carson

From 1971 until December 1995, the 4th Infantry Division was assigned to Fort Carson, Colorado. The Rocky Mountain setting provided a spectacular backdrop for the Division as well as presenting many training opportunities over the years.

The 4th replaced the 5th Infantry Division at Fort Carson and soon after their arrival the Division was reorganized as a mechanized infantry division and adopted as a nickname “The Ironhorse Division”.

In 1971, the 4th received word that they would be the test location for the Modern Volunteer Army concept with an initial appropriation of \$5 million for implementation. The lessons learned at Fort Carson were essential when

the Army began the conversion from a draft-based force to the volunteer army in 1974.

From the time of their arrival at Fort Carson, the 4th Infantry Division participated in many training exercises in order to be able to deploy anywhere in the world. In addition, they were trained to handle civil disturbance situations as well as natural disaster relief. Their Search and Rescue teams provided much-needed assistance to local authorities in the mountainous areas of the region.

In 1974, the Division participated in Operation REFORGER, a recurring training exercise that would be repeated periodically over the next 15 years.

In 1976, the 4ID positioned a brigade in Germany. The original Brigade Forward concept was to rotate the forward brigade with a brigade from Fort Carson on a six-month basis. However, by late 1976, the Army decided to permanently station the forward brigade in Germany and attach it to the 8th Infantry Division for operational purposes. The configuration of the Forward Brigade was 2/22nd Infantry Battalion, 3/28th Infantry Battalion, 1/70th Armor Battalion, 2/20th Field Artillery Battalion, 64th Support Battalion, E Troop 1/10th Cavalry, and F Company 4th Engineer Battalion. The Brigade’s duty station was Wiesbaden, Germany.

At Fort Carson the 4th had three brigades. The 1st Brigade consisted of 1/10th Infantry, 1/12th Infantry, and 6/32nd Armor Battalions. The 2nd Brigade was 1/11th Infantry,



Fort Carson. A soldier of the 4th Infantry Division (Mech) trains with a M47 Dragon medium anti-tank weapon. Ca. 1978.

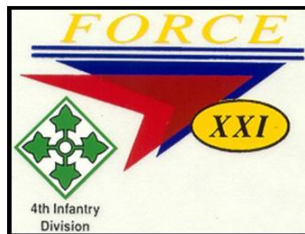
1/22nd Infantry, and 1/77th Armor Battalions, while the 3rd Brigade was 1/8th Infantry, 2/34th Infantry, and 4/40th Armor Battalions. The Division Artillery contained 1/19th Field Artillery, 1/20th Field Artillery, 1/27th Field Artillery, 1/29th Field Artillery, and 4/61st Air Defense Artillery Battalions. Division Support Command consisted of 4th Medical, 4th Supply and Transport, and 704th

Maintenance Battalions. Under Division Troops there was 1/10th Cavalry, 124th Signal, 4th Aviation, 4th Engineers, 43rd Support Group, 19th Military Police, 52nd Engineers, and 68th Transportation Battalions. For the next 10 years the 4ID (Mech) would retain the 3 brigade structure. However, there were many redesignations/ activations/inactivations of the units within the brigades. In 1986, an Aviation Brigade headquarters was organized.

While at Fort Carson, the mission of the 4th was to be ready to deploy anywhere in the world at any time. Their primary training focus, however, was to reinforce NATO if necessary.



A vehicle recovery at a river crossing by soldiers of the 4th Infantry Division during REFORGER 78.



Fort Hood and Force XXI

In January 1995, the Division received word that due to the downsizing of the US Army, the 2nd Armored Division, located at Fort Hood, Texas, would be reflagged as the 4th Infantry Division and the Division headquarters would be relocated to Fort Hood, TX. The Division's 3d Brigade was to remain at Fort Carson.

The reflagging ceremony took place on 15 December 1995. The 1995 configuration of the Division included two brigades located at Fort Hood, Texas. The 1st Brigade is composed of 1/22nd Infantry, 1/66th Armor, 3/66th Armor Battalions, and 299th Engineer Bn. The 2nd Brigade is composed of 2/8th Infantry, 1/67th Armor

and 3/67th Armor Battalions, and 588th Engineer Battalion. The 3rd Brigade at Fort Carson is comprised of 1/8th Infantry, 1/12th Infantry, 1/68th Armor Battalions, and 4th Engineer Battalion.

The 4th Brigade (formerly the Aviation Brigade) contains 1/10th Cavalry, 1/4th Aviation and 2/4th Aviation Battalions, while Division Artillery is comprised of 3/16th Field Artillery, 3/29th Field Artillery, 4/42nd Field Artillery, and 2/20th Field Artillery. Division Support Command contains 4th FSB, 64th FSB (Fort Carson), 204th FSB, and 704th MSB. Separate battalions include 1/44th Air Defense Artillery, 124th Signal, and 104th Military Intelligence. Completing the Division are the 4th Military Police Company and Division Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

As the U.S. Army's Force XXI Division, the 4th Infantry Division is testing and fielding the newest developments in high technology weaponry. The efforts of the Division over the next few years will determine the direction that the U. S. Army will take as it enters the 21st Century.



Combining the newest technology to acquire and transmit information about an area of operations, the FORCE XXI initiatives are leading to the development of a FORCE XXI Division, and ultimately, a

FORCE XXI Corps. Beginning with the 4ID's 1st Brigade, experimental technologies and equipment were tested for compatibility in a combat environment. Ultimately, the Army believes that information dominance will lead to battlefield dominance by providing real-time information to the decision makers who may be physically removed from the immediate combat situation.

Accompanying the testing of equipment and technology will be the development of combat tactics and doctrine that will be applied Army-wide as we move into the Twenty-first Century. With the completion of the Division Capstone Exercise in November 2001, the testing was at an end. At this time the Division acquired a new mission: Division Ready Brigade. With this mission one of the Division's Brigade was constantly ready for quick deployment anywhere in the world where needed.

Training and testing some of the Army's new equipment is the responsibility of 4ID's Force XXI mission.



1st/4th Aviation Battalion refuel aircraft in Bosnia. The aircraft had been flying sweeps of downtown Sarajevo during the G8 Peace Conference attended by the President of the United States. Summer 1999.

Recent Deployments

During recent years, the 4th Infantry Division has sent its soldiers on deployments throughout the world.

A task force from our 24 Aviation Battalion was deployed to Somalia in 1993 shortly after the incidents depicted in "Black Hawk Down" occurred.

In 1995, a task force was deployed to Guantanamo, Cuba to assist with the influx of Haitian people who were intercepted between Haiti and Florida.

In 1999, the Division's 1-10 Cavalry deployed to Kuwait for a six month rotation arriving home just before Christmas. In 1999 we also saw the 1-4 Aviation Battalion deployed to Bosnia in support of



*Left: C Co 588th Eng soldiers putting out "hot spots".
Right: View of the fire from base camp in the Payette National Forest.*



the 1st Cavalry Division. Accompanying the 1-4 was part of the 204 Support Battalion. Both units were in Bosnia during the air war of March-June 1999. They returned to Fort Hood in the fall of 1999.

In late July 2000, Task Force Thunder was organized to assist with fire-fighting efforts in Idaho. The Task Force was composed of 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, A Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, and C Company, 588th Engineer Battalion. Air and medical support was provided by two Black Hawk teams and personnel from the

507th Medical Co. The task force was trained and then flown immediately up to the Payette National Forest in Idaho where they remained for most of the month of August.

In 2002, 1-22 Infantry sent two Task Forces to Guantanamo, Cuba where they assisted with guarding the Al Q'eda prisoners who were housed there. Most of the prisoners had been captured in Afghanistan and were part of the United States war on Terrorism.



4th Infantry Division vehicles loading at the Fort Hood, Railhead, 3 February 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom

On 18 January 2003, the 4th Infantry Division was given the deployment order for movement to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Even though it was a holiday weekend, soldiers immediately returned to their posts and began moving equipment and vehicles to the Railhead. Within a record time for a heavy armored Division, the 4ID had

loaded their equipment onto 21 ships bound for Turkey. The Turkish government then refused to allow our Division personnel to land. For two months the personnel awaited word on where they would be going. Finally, in March, word arrived. The soldiers and equipment of the 4th would be landing in Kuwait with immediate movement into Iraq.

The Division held a flag casing ceremony on 27 March 2003 as their final ceremony prior to deployment. It was attended by thousands of family members who took a last chance to tell their soldiers goodbye.

From 1-15 April, 2003 the Division off-loaded ships in Kuwait—again, in record time. By the 15th all Division soldiers were in theater. On 14 April, the lead elements of the Division had moved to the northern edge of Baghdad and on 16 April, the Division entered combat. By the 18th of April they had attacked north to Samarra and by the 19th, they had attacked to Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's birthplace.



CSM Charles Fuss and MG Raymond Odierno at the Flag Casing Ceremony, 27 March



Part of Saddam Hussein's palace in Tikrit which served as the 4th Infantry Division's headquarters.

On 25 April, the Division suffered its first combat fatality when 1LT Osbaldo Orozco, C Company, 1-22 Infantry Battalion, died as a result of an M2 Bradley roll-over as two M2s were responding to an engagement.

On 1 May 2003, President Bush announced the end of major hostilities, but the Division was in the so-called "Sunni Triangle" where the former B'aathist party members and Hussein's Fedayeen Saddam were actively ambushing US forces. Over the next

three months, the Division carried out many aggressive operations designed to hunt down these last hold-outs of the old regime. With names like Operation Sidewinder, Operation Ivy Serpent, and Operation Desert Scorpion, the Division conducted night raids in an attempt to find the men and material who were still waging war against the US forces.

At the same time, the Division had the massive job of rebuilding the infrastructure of the many cities and villages within their Area of Operations and re-establishing a governmental structure. The people of the region included many different cultural groups including Kurds, Sunni Moslems, and Shi'ite Moslems.

In Operation Red Dawn, conducted on 13 December 2003, the Division in coordination with a special unit, captured the top High Value Target of Iraq—Saddam Hussein.



Hussein was located about 10 miles south of Tikrit, cowering in a "spider hole". His capture has been described by the news media as the Number

Engineers construct a floating bridge across the Tigris River at Tikrit until the partially destroyed permanent bridge (background) can be repaired. 28 April 2003



Elements of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division patrol through the Iraqi countryside, 28 April 2003.

News story of 2003.

The Division began returning to Fort Hood in February 2004. All Soldiers of the Division had returned home by April 2004.

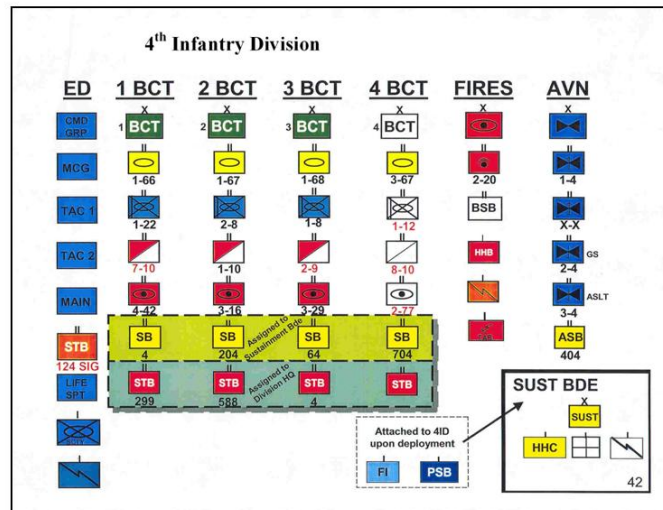
Modularity and Return to Iraq

On 18 June 2004, MG James D. Thurman assumed command of the 4th Infantry Division and a new era began for the Soldiers of the Division. A massive reorganization began throughout the Division. At the same time all of the equipment that had returned from Iraq started the long process of rebuild and upgrade. The end goal was to have the Division postured so that it could return to Iraq in the fall of 2005.

As part of the new reorganization all of the Brigade Combat Teams would be built around battalions that had combined arms companies integrated into the battalions. The BCT would have the support elements assigned to it, so that the BCT would resemble those of every other heavy BCT in the US Army. This would enable the Army to better resupply the BCTs when they were deployed to a combat area.

Additionally, the Division stood up the 4th BCT bringing the total strength of the Division to slightly over 20,000 personnel.

The Division now stands poised to write the next chapter in its history.



Return to Iraq

In the fall of 2005, the 4th Infantry Division began its return to Iraq for another year's deployment. The Sustainment Brigade led the way, with the rest of the Division following during October, November and December.

Division Headquarters was established at Camp Liberty in Baghdad. MG Thurman now led the "Multi-National Division" which was composed of the 4ID's 1st and 2nd Brigades as well as brigade from the 101st Infantry Division. With the attached units, the MND numbered over 30,000 personnel and was responsible for a large section of security in Iraq, including the always volatile city of Baghdad.

This deployment saw a rise in the sectarian violence which was beginning to plague the new government. However, the accomplishments during this critical year were many. A new government was elected and installed. Iraqi Security Forces were beginning to take a larger role in the security of their own country. Infrastructure improvements continued so that larger sections of the population were afforded clean water and improved electrical service. Oil production was back to its pre-war levels and improvements were made to schools and medical facilities.



Meeting with local tribal leaders is part of the mission in the deployment to Iraq, 2006



Camp Taji, Iraq: An AH64D helicopter from the 4th Infantry Division's Aviation Brigade lifts off on a mission after getting clearance from the Air Traffic Service.



LINEAGE AND HONORS

HERALDIC ITEMS

Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

Description: On a light khaki square, each side 2 inches in width overall and with one angle up, four green ivy leaves arranged as per cross issuing from a small open circle (one leaf in each angle of the square and the vertical and horizontal axes each 2 11/32 inches in length) all within a 1/8 inch light khaki border.

Symbolism: The four leaves allude to the numerical designation of the division, while the word "Ivy" as pronounced suggest the characters used in the formation of the Roman numeral "IV". Ivy leaves are symbolic of fidelity and tenacity.

Distinctive Insignia

Description: A gold colored metal and enamel device 1 inch in height overall, consisting of an ivy leaf of green enamel fimbriated gold above a scroll with the inscription "Steadfast and Loyal."

Symbolism: The ivy leaf is taken from the 4th Infantry Division shoulder sleeve insignia. The motto is associated with the division.

Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Lineage: Constituted 19 November 1917 in the Regular Army as Headquarters, 4th Division. Organized 10 December 1917 at Camp Greene, North Carolina. Inactivated 21 September 1921 at Camp Lewis, Washington. Activated 1 June 1940 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Reorganized and redesignated 1 August 1942 as Headquarters, 4th Motorized Division. Reorganized and redesignated 4 August 1943 as Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division. Inactivated 12 March 1946 at Camp Butner, North Carolina. Activated 15 July 1947 at Fort Ord, California. Reorganized and redesignated 13 June 1960 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Division.

Campaign Participation Credits:

World War I

Aisne-Marne

St. Mihiel

Meuse-Argonne

Champagne 1918

Lorraine 1918

*

Vietnam

Counteroffensive, Phase II

Counteroffensive, Phase III

Tet Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase IV

Counteroffensive, Phase V

Counteroffensive, Phase VI

*

World War II

Normandy (w/arrowhead)

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

*

Tet 69/Counteroffensive

Summer-Fall 1969

Winter-Spring 1970

Sanctuary Counteroffensive

Counteroffensive, Phase VII

*

Decorations:

Belgian Fourragere 1940 (Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, cited: DA GO 43, 1950)

Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for Action in BELGIUM (Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, cited: DA GO 43, 1950)

Cited in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army for action in the ARDENNES (Headquarters, 4th Infantry Division, cited: DA GO 43, 1950)

Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1966-1969 (Headquarters, 4th Infantry, cited: DA GO 3, 1970)

Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1969-1970 (Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Division, cited: DA GO 52, 1971)

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered VIETNAM 1966-1969 (Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th Infantry Division, cited: DA GO 53, 1970)

